

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 263500

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 263500

FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ATRN, APER, MILI, ASEC, PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: HAMBRIC'S PROPOSED TRAVEL IN BEKAA AND AKKAR

REF: BEIRUT 8125, STATE 261155

ON FURTHER REFLECTION, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT COL. HAMBRIC SHOULD NOT RPT NOT MAKE PROPOSED TRIP IN WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY SYRIAN-CONTROLLED OR OCCUPIED AREA IN IMMEDIATE WAKE OF RIYADH ACCORDS AND CAIRO SUMMIT. CHANGE IN PATTERN OF EMBASSY OPERATIONS AT THIS SENSITIVE JUNCTURE COULD ATTRACT UNWELCOME ATTENTION AND AGAIN INVITE ALLEGATIONS OF US-SYRIAN COLLUSION. WE APPRECIATE COL. ;AMBRIC'S SPIRIT BUT BELIEVE WE MUST BE EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS AND NOT DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT UNDERCUT CURRENT, RATHER PROMISING DEVELOPMENTS IN AREA. KISSINGER

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